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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Ruddy et al.

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Serial No.:

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Examiner: Goldberg, Jeanine

For:

POLYMORPHISMS IN THE **REGION OF THE HUMAN**

Attorney Docket No.:

8907-057-999

HEMOCHROMATOSIS GENE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The enclosed amendment and remarks are in response to the Office Action dated February 9, 2004 for the above identified patent application.

Enclosed herewith is a Petition to Request an Extension of Time.

This Amendment and Response includes the following:

Amendment to the Claims as shown in the list of claims beginning on page 2; and Remarks beginning on page 6.